LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-11 (Canceled).

12. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a cyanide-free solution of a gold compound that is suitable for gold electrodeposition baths, comprising the steps of:

(a) reacting at least one of a cysteine and a cysteinate with at least one of tetracholoroauric acid and a tetrachloroaurate in a first aqueous medium;

(b) separating a resulting precipitate from the first aqueous medium; and

(c) dissolving the precipitate in a second aqueous medium with elevation of the pH to 12.0-14.0.

13. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 12, and further comprising the step of washing the separated precipitate until it is free of chloride.

14. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim 12, wherein the molar ratio of ~~cysteine/cysteinate~~ the at least one of a cysteine and a cysteinate to the tetrachlorogold compound is 3.1 to 10.1.

15. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 12, including carrying out the reacting step at a temperature of T< +30°C.

16. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 12, wherein the dissolving step includes raising the pH to 13.5.

17. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 12, wherein the reacting step includes using potassium L-cysteinate as the cysteinate.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a solution of a gold compound that is suitable for gold electrodeposition gold baths as a precursor for production of gold-containing heterogeneous catalysts, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) reacting at least one of a cysteine and a cysteinate with at least one of tetrachlorauric acid and a tetrachloroaurate in a first aqueous medium;

(b) separating a resulting precipitate from the first aqueous medium; and

(c) dissolving the precipitate in a second aqueous medium with elevation of the pH to 12.0-14.0.